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upon any aggressor, whoever he may be? Suppose that he is my ally (if alliances survive) or my late ally. No British Foreign Secretary could persuade this nation to join a German army in invading France for many a long year to come, if she were the offender. The jingoes and the pacifists would unite to oppose him, whatever the League might say. Nor can one see Austria joining Italy to coerce Germany."

Is it not the time for the League to Enforce Peace to explain to us how small nations can be expected to declare war on powerful nations where the risks are unequal, to make it clear how sovereign States are to be brought to the point of surrendering their sovereignty or to the point of agreeing to support an organization and granting to it the power to wage war against themselves? These things must be thought through. The league program so far has said nothing about enforcing of decrees and this, undoubtedly, has been a wise omission. There is a growing disposition, however, to look for some federation of States which shall be competent to secure results in the direction of change and progress. Thinking men find it difficult to conceive of any successful League to Enforce Peace without some form of a competent executive, with its inevitable implication, at this stage of international politics, of prejudice and rivalry. Nations will be very slow to subordinate themselves to a coercive league unless the advantages are very apparent. In other words, such a league must present a constructive and positive program and not a negative hypothesis.

The whole problem of tariffs, economic and commercial advantages and their relation to the League, must be solved before we can reasonably expect any considerable number of acceptances of its program by Russia, Japan, Greece, or the Scandinavian countries. Monopolies, the disposition of dependencies, are other aspects of the case requiring analysis. So far as we know no word was said at the convention, no constructive thing has been written, to reveal the relations of such a league to the ramifying facts of international trade.

It is very well to emphasize the "high purpose of the war," to "take an active part in win-the-war activities," to "oppose an inconclusive and German-made peace that would only be a breathing space before another and greater contest," to "plan the foundations for a permanent League of Nations to make peace secure in the future," and to talk these things here and abroad. But that kind of talk is no longer enough. The convention at Philadelphia owed it to an anxious world to say something constructive, to the end that we might win this war "greatly and worthily." It did not do it. In consequence, we fear there are thinking men who must have turned from it with a deep feeling of regret and disappointment.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Internationalism at Home.

In an apartment especially reserved for them in the headquarters building of the Pan American Union, in Washington, Dr. Toledo Herrata, Foreign Minister for Guatemala, with four Guatemalan legal and engineering experts, began recently a series of conferences with a like representation from the neighboring Republic of Honduras, to secure, if possible, a peaceful settlement of boundary difficulties existing between the two countries. It was announced that these conferences were to be preliminary to the final decision of the United States Government in the case, which these countries have requested. The Central American Court of Justice, founded at the instance and with the assistance of Mexico and the United States, has been suspended, the "first term" of ten years of the convention establishing the court having recently expired. It is gratifying to the citizens of this nation that these Republics still turn to us as their friend and counsellor in such a matter as this. It is proof, too, that with the charity which inspires our public demands for a system of justice between nations large and small we may begin at home. Our record of conduct toward our weaker neighbors is by no means spotless, as Colombia or Costa Rica might inform us, but that we are still trusted is much. Upon that we may yet build a policy of justice and thoroughgoing honesty that will win the world's respect and form precedents for a yet broader conception of intra-national responsibility.

Earthquake and Opportunity.

We have seen with what gratitude and renewed understanding of neighborliness as an international policy Canada received our assistance during the difficult days following the Halifax explosion. Money, materials, personal aid, and nation-wide commiseration poured lavishly into Halifax and the surrounding districts from this country last December. The ebb of the tide reveals definite things added to the permanent structure of developing friendships of the Western Hemisphere. A like opportunity confronts us today, although not perhaps so striking, nor, because of distance and lack of intimate information, so appealing. The little American Republic of Guatemala has recently suffered a catastrophe that might well cause a larger nation to wish to close up shop and take a decade's vacation in anarchy. We heard, in this country, the dim rumors of one, yes, even two of the earthquake shocks that ruined Guatemala City. The city during the months of December, January, and February, itself felt six, each capable alone of destroying practically all

customary business activities and rendering the population homeless. Prof. Marshall A. Seville, in the Archeology department of Columbia University, recently returned from Central America, states that but one building is standing in the whole city, a reinforced concrete villa that hardly shows a crack. Forty thousand persons are refugees in various parts of the country; eighty thousand still remaining in the neighborhood live as best they may, in tents or rude shelters, striving for enough food and to keep what little they have saved. Roadbeds and railway cuts were before the rains largely destroyed, with the certainty that the heavy downfall to come would make travel practically impossible. These are the conditions that call for assistance.

Guatemala, as explained elsewhere, is practicing at this moment the best sort of internationalism, and soliciting the aid and counsel of the United States in her effort. Professor Seville, in his plea for this country's sympathy, points also to the fact that Guatemala was the first Latin American nation to sever diplomatic relations with Germany. President Carrera is reported as most friendly in his attitude towards this country. Foreign Minister Herrata, head of the Boundary Commission, when in New Orleans, May 6, on his way to Washington, stated that Guatemala declared war on Germany "for the same reason that the United States did, because a German victory was unthinkable. For many years Germany has had her eye on South and Central America, and only the Monroe Doctrine has protected us from her encroachments." These are but additional reasons for our friendship and aid.

President Carrera is reported by those who have been there as dealing with the lamentable situation in his country with an almost "U. S. A." thoroughness and dispatch, in the course of which he has handled the 7,000 Germans in the country with a firm and successful hand. America is giving mightily in a reconstruction work of a far more terrible sort, and yet it is but an axiom that to give is but to learn how to give more. If internationalism is a present reality to us, we shall find it hard to pass by this opportunity to practice it at home—the sort of internationalism that sticks, that the feeblest intellect can understand, the sort that moved us in the case of the Boxer indemnity refund to China—helpfulness in time of need.

A Correction.

In three places on page 135 of our last issue occurs a misprint, slight in itself but which might prove confusing to the unwary reader. In the editorial entitled "The Pan Slav Drive against Austria-Hungary" the

year of the "Pact of Corfu" appears as 1915. This, of course, should be 1917, as the reader discovered for himself if he took occasion to read that document, reprinted on page 144 of the same issue, in connection with the editorial. It is true that in 1915 Yugoslav representatives had a meeting in Paris, and drew up what might be called the first rough draft of the later document, but it was not until the meeting at Corfu two years later that the dream of the new State began to haunt the Foreign Offices of Italy and Austria-Hungary. It was not until then that the first reaction against the idea in Italy attracted outside attention, and that Signor Della Torre, editor of the *Corriere della Sera*, began in earnest his at first somewhat perilous propaganda for an Italian-Yugoslav agreement.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the Yugoslavs themselves protest the inaccuracy of the term "Pact of Corfu." "Pact," they urge, has the connotation of a settlement between formerly antagonistic parties, or parties estranged in some manner. "Declaration" is the word they choose instead, for their assertion is that since the idea of a Serbo-Croat-Slovene State was first promulgated not a moment of division or disagreement has marred the deliberations of the representatives of the three peoples. "We have been like brothers," one of them states, "planning the steps necessary to save our father's home from usurpation."

Opportunities to Serve.

The General Secretary of the National War Work Council of the American Y. M. C. A., Dr. John R. Mott, has recently returned from France. He is convinced that the Y. M. C. A. needs at least 4,000 new workers in that country by September. He tells us that the British and Canadian Y. M. C. A. have lost ninety of their huts, but that the American Unit still maintains six hundred of them, including canteens and cafés, and that, besides, it is financing five hundred and fifty centers for the French. The greater part of these are under fire most of the time. Here is opportunity for volunteers, indeed, if only they be of the right stuff.

The plan is to put a Y. M. C. A. hut in every French village of two hundred inhabitants or more. While there are two thousand Y. M. C. A. workers over there now, one-fifth of whom are women, there is need for many more. "To spread a net of service through the army and navy" is the aim. It appears that two workers accompany every transport, that others are stationed at ports of debarkation, and that still others help our soldier boys on the first line trenches. General Pershing has put all places of leave under the supervision of the Y. M. C. A., in consequence of which it has been found

necessary to widen its scope to include every activity of the soldier's life. Operating through the neutral countries, the organization is working among the allied prisoners in German and Austrian prison camps, mostly in Austria. We are told that between Ireland and Vladivostok there are approximately three hundred colleges for the interned professors and specialists. It is planned to distribute two hundred workers among the Italian army, in consequence of which men who can speak Italian are needed.

The vitality of this work is gripping the resolutions of the best men we have, our brave and resourceful men. As Dr. Mott says: "They should know how to make bricks without straw. We want men who will know how to represent the American home, school, library, theatre, the American five-and-ten-cent store. They must do much more than work here. They must be able to understand men and see them as the soldier sees them."

The spirit demanded here is the spirit at the bottom of the world we are about to build. Men unable or even unwilling to carry guns can present no valid objections to the work of the Y. M. C. A. abroad. The man who is anxious to express his life in these great days can, if he be able, render a genuine service to the development of the American ideal, which the strength and the manhood of the nation are now called upon to support.

The Virtue of Thrift.

It may be true, it is probably true, that the outlook for the nation is an outlook of dangers and of wilder conflagrations. Every nation as it goes forth to combat the evil of militarism, for example, finds itself becoming, by the very process, militaristic. Fighting fire with fire, our own fire becomes increasingly intense. Peace is seen to be a difficult condition, difficult to make and difficult to maintain.

But out of the clash of these days, we somehow hope, even believe, that the things which make for a safe and sane civilization will become clearer and more welcome. One of these certainly is thrift. The President of the United States has issued a special appeal to us that we economize and save. The Treasury Department of the Government has urged us to cut our demands on the labor, material and money of the country to the limit that the Government may have a greater supply of money, material and labor. Economize, save, and loan to the Government is the plea. Mr. Julius Rosenwald has recently pointed out that the only way for an individual, a business or a nation, to get along is to work and save. He says: "We can finance the enormous cost of this war by spending only for the things we need." He points out that England's attempt to follow the principle of "business as usual" has failed, and he adds that

if we wish to resume business as usual at an earlier date than would otherwise be possible, we must increase the volume of business essential to the ending of the war. He adds, "The business of England is war, just as it must and will be the business of this country." If our people do work and save and loan to the Government, as they have already begun to do, they will receive an education in the proper use of money that will naturally persist in the years of peace to come. Mr. Rosenwald is undoubtedly right when he remarks, "We shall end the war a more saving nation than when we entered it."

Thrift has been defined as the management of one's affairs so that the value of one's possessions constantly increases. The habit of increasing the value of one's possessions may lead to miserly meanness, but if properly guarded it is the basis of all we understand by personal success or national greatness. The habit of thrift is more valuable than riches, because habits tend to become permanent possessions, while riches are uncertain. Fortunes, whether they be in terms of mind, or spirit, or things, are useless without thrift. Thrift is the corner stone of happiness, because it ensures progress, and without a divine feeling of progression an intelligent being cannot be happy. Thrift multiplies the power to earn, to clothe and to feed the bodies and souls of men. Thrift cures the disease of fear, promotes the welfare of the one who practices it and of those who behold it. Thrift is a virtue more precious than any annuity. Thrift is, as the French say, "The Philosopher's Stone," turning all the baser metals into gold. Thrift is at the basis of so much that makes for human happiness, we may believe when rightly understood and practiced, that it enters far into the future peace and well being of the nations.



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